

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6178

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 4421

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, CH, HK

SUBJECT: TUAN KO-WEN

REF: TAIPEI 4221

1. VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, CHIEN FU, CALLED IN DCM MORNING JULY 17, TO FOLLOW UP EARLIER CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR (REFTEL) ON TUAN KO-WEN CASE. AFTER EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR THE ADVANCE WORD WE HAD PROVIDED ON DECISION TO PERMIT TUAN TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES, CHIEN SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING THREE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS: (1) DID THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CONSULT WITH OR HAVE ANY FORM OF CONTACT WITH PRC ABOUT TUAN; (2) WHERE WILL TUAN RESIDE IN THE UNITED STATES; AND (3) HOW WILL HE MAKE A LIVING? WITH REGARD TO THE FIRST QUESTION, DCM REPLIED THAT HE HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THERE HAD BEEN ANY CONTACT WITH PRC REGARDING TUAN OR ANY OF THE OTHER "EX-KMT WAR CRIMINALS". SO FAR AS TUAN'S WHEREABOUTS OR FUTURE PLANS WERE CONCERNED, DCM SAID HE HAD NO INFORMATION, BUT ASSUMES IRC OR SOME CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS WOULD BE ASSISTING IN RESOLVING TUAN'S RELOCATION PROBLEMS. CHIEN THEN REQUESTED THAT THESE QUESTIONS BE PASSED TO THE DEPARTMENT. DCM AGREED TO DO SO.

2. DURING ENSUING CONVERSATION, CHIEN BEMOANED CLEVERNESS OF PRC, AND DIFFICULT POSITION IN WHICH ROC HAD BEEN PLACED. HE GAVE NO INDICATION, HOWEVER, THAT GROC INTENDED RECONSIDER ITS
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POLICY OF NOT ALLOWING ANY OF REMAINING SEVEN STILL IN HONG KONG

TO ENTER TAIWAN. IN RATHER FEEBLE ATTEMPT TO JUSTIFY HARD LINE, HE WONDERED OUT LOUD WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF GROG PERMITTED CURRENT GROUP TO ENTER THEN PEKING RELEASED "ANOTHER 250 OR 500".

3. RETURNING TO TUAN, HE ASKED IF THERE WOULD BE ANY CONTROLS PLACED UPON HIS ENGAGING IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES IN THE U.S. DCM REPLIED THAT U.S. BILL OF RIGHTS WOULD APPLY AND THAT TUAN WOULD NO DOUBT BE TREATED AS ANY OTHER ALIEN RESIDENT OF THE U.S. IN THIS CONNECTION CHIEN NOTED HAPPILY THAT TUAN'S TRAVEL HAD NOT YET DRAWN ANY PRESS ATTENTION. DCM REASSURED CHIEN THAT WE HAD NO INTENTION OF GENERATING ANY PUBLICITY.

4. CHIEN ALSO PRESSED FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION REGARDING THE OPERATION OF U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW AND ITS APPLICATION TO TUAN OR POSSIBLY OTHERS OF THE HONG KONG GROUP WHO HAD NO KNOWN RELATIVES OR FRIENDS IN THE U.S. DCM LIMITED HIS RESPONSE TO NOTING THAT U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW MADE PROVISION FOR HANDLING SUCH CASES ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: UNLESS DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS IT PREFERABLE PURSUE MATTER WITH GROG EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, PLEASE PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONS/GUIDANCE FOR RESPONDING FURTHER TO THREE (3) SPECIFIC QUESTIONS RAISED BY CHIEN IN PARA 1, ABOVE. FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, EMBASSY ASSUMES DEPARTMENT WOULD NOT WISH TO PROVIDE GROG WITH ANY SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON TUAN'S WHEREABOUTS, BUT SOME GENERALITIES REGARDING RESETTLEMENT PROCESS WOULD BE USEFUL.

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